

Grade 7 2026-2027 Description of Options

All Grade 7 students take Band & French which are both full year courses.

BAND

The Band program provides opportunities for junior high students to develop their skills and abilities in music. Students develop and improve aural, technical, theoretical, interpretive, and synthesis skills. They also learn to play with good tone and intonation as well as to interpret the repertoire studied. In Grade 7, band students learn about the instrument of their choice, how to play, listen, and how to make a critical judgment on music. They also learn to interpret rhythm, melody, harmony, and form.

FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Through the thematic study of French, students acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes to be effective global citizens. In their exploration of these cultures, they also gain respect and appreciation for all cultures. Students use French in a variety of situations and for a variety of purposes, acquiring strategies to maximize the effectiveness of their learning and communication. Coursework is largely project-based, but also requires students to complete a written, spoken, and listening component. The development of language competence varies amongst students. Because success is based on repetition, all students are encouraged to review and practice daily, such as reviewing their notes, reading texts or watching films.

Grade 7 students will choose two other half year options using the link for Microsoft Forms on the website.

ART

Creative expression and the exploration of art elements & principals is the foundation of the Visual Arts program. This option gives students an opportunity to develop skills in drawing, painting and three-dimensional representations (sculpture). For all grades, the AJM Fine Art Program is centered around a TAB (Teaching Art Behaviours) instructional framework. This choice-centered approach regards students as artists and provides them real choices for reflecting their own ideas and interests when making art. This approach in art education supports multiple modes of art exploration & learning. The students will create, reflect upon, and respond to art using a variety of techniques & processes. In Grade 7, students will have the opportunity to experience; drawing different forms, painting, pastel and India ink work, relief composition, or sculpture.

COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (CTF)

Comm. Tech. students will be challenged to move beyond basic levels of computer skills and other technologies. Throughout the three years students will increase in the depth of knowledge and understanding of the various technologies. Although no prerequisites are required it is important for students to have a passion for computers and digital technologies. Throughout the three years they will explore the following areas of interest: Office & Google Suite platform exploration, typing basics, introduction to coding through the Code.Org, Scratch and Python platforms, 2D and 3D digital design, and deeper exploration depending on previous experience.

CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN (CTF)

Students learn basic woodworking skills, develop safe workplace practices, learn safe operation of machinery, and learn practical solutions to solving problems when building projects. Successful completion of modules in this strand is intended to provide students with a broad base of relevant theory and practice that builds daily living and career-specific skills. Grade 7s will be working on safety protocol, bridge construction, a letter project and basic drafting. These projects will introduce the students to the scroll saw, spindle sander and palm sander.

All classes are required to complete a safety module!!!

ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION (CTF)

In the Business Enterprise and Innovation option course the instructional platform is real life. From the moment students enter the classroom they will be immersed in the business world! As authentic entrepreneurs, our students in Grades 7-9 will have an opportunity to earn a profit and gain life-long skills through the creation and operation of their very own Marketplace business venture. This course is designed to provide all students with authentic learning experiences that will increase their “Sphere of Influence”, enable them to make connections to the world, give back to the community through charitable initiatives, and to truly see value in all aspects of academic learning/leadership.

FOODS AND FASHION and FOOD STUDIES (CTF)

This course is intended to give an overview of two CTF (Career and Technology Foundation) paths, Foods and Fashion. The program is presented in a semester format to our grade 7 students and offers them the opportunity to develop lifelong skills in areas indispensable to everyday life. The Foods component covers safety and sanitation rules for the kitchen, basic kitchen equipment use, fundamental techniques through a series of labs, reading and following recipes. In Fashion, basic hand stitches, iron safety, machine sewing and safety techniques, and conclude with a final culminating project.

DRAMA

The Dramatic Arts option at Archbishop Joseph MacNeil provides students with the opportunity to develop their skills in the four major disciplines of Drama: Movement, Speech, Acting/Improvisation and Technical Theatre. Students are first introduced to these concepts in Grade 7. A Drama class builds strong communication and collaboration skills while helping students grow in confidence, creativity, and self-expression. Students learn how to read, analyze, and mark scripts, make purposeful actor choices, and understand how character and scene analysis shape the give-and-take of dialogue. Through performance and improvisation techniques, students develop adaptability, active listening, and the ability to think on their feet. These outcomes are achieved through the four major disciplines of drama: Movement, Speech, Acting/Improvisation, and Technical Theatre, providing students with a well-rounded and practical theatre experience that extend well beyond the stage and into everyday life